

Mrs. Jan Samet, Librarian
Hood College
401 Rosemont Ave.,
Frederick, MD 21701



HAROLD WEISBERG
7627 OLD RECEIVER RD
FREDERICK MD 21702-2752

10/16/01

Dear Mrs. Samet,

Please excuse the delay in answering your letter. In part it is from complications here and in part because I do not know what now can be done. I know what is best but that may present some problem and we have more than enough of them.

Perhaps it is best that I explain what happened.

I fell hard, lost a great amount of blood, was ambulatory but not conscious, and this for several days, was given three packages of plasma, had surgery, was not aware of any of this from the time I was helped up after the fall. When I did not know anything Jerry visited and I apparently told him I wanted the books in my office taken down the basement. He appears to be the only one who was not aware that I was not conscious and although there were things I'd been trying to get him to do for years, one important for Hood for more than a decade, he decided to go ahead and do this last and entirely unreasonable thing, without any checking. With anybody although he now admits it was dumb. He took them to the basement, where they are inaccessible to me, and they are all I'd kept for the work I can still do. He also permitted Clay to take them to Hood, where nobody knew a thing about them. But they are indispensable in the only work I've been able to do for almost a decade, about thirty-five book manuscripts. And then Clay helped himself to most of them. I'd been given different accounts, from a single box to seven boxes.

We all owe Clay much to much for me to make any demands on him but the fact is that for what time I have left, which can't be very much, they should be here. Just in case and in the event I may need some in the work I am still doing. However, I've told Clay only that if there is any question about any of those book manuscripts that involves any of those books he took it should be returned immediately and that when he no longer wants or needs them all should be returned.

With regard to the box you say you have, best would be for me to go over it and remove any related to my work and any not part of the archive. Jerry emptied not only my office but also the living room. (I had given almost all my books away to get the shelf space and had no shortage of space.)

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You would still get any I may keep because they are essential to the archive.

I cannot ask Jerry to bring that box to me. He is mad at me because of his own thoughtlessness and stupidity and our friendship is over. But if I can get someone to pick them up, could you please, if necessary, have them poaced in the car, if necessary?

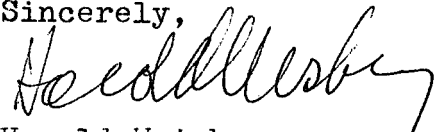
My wife and I love Clay and we are much indebted to him. What he has done and is fantastic, is incredible, and he is doing more. I also have another book ready for him. I think that with regard to what relates to the unprinted manuscripts knowing what relates and should be kept, he will be the most dependable source once I am no longer here.

This is a strange subject and what may seem like trash and is trash is part of the whole thing and needs to be preserved.

If I may have that box back, can it be on a Saturday?

I'm very sorry this situation developed.

Sincerely,



Harold Weisberg